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ABSTRACT

Forty-five books about Mexican Americans are listed to provide children of all ethnic groups with a better understanding of the Mexican American culture. Each entry is annotated and graded "Primary," "Intermediate," and/or "Junior High." The materials, primarily about children, were published between 1946 and 1983. (JMM)

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San Diego County Office of Education
6401 Linda Vista Road, San Diego, California 92111-7399
(619) 292-3609

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FOREWORD

One important purpose of education is to increase sensitivity toward people, their values, and their ways of living. This bibliography focuses on providing books about Mexican-Americans that will provide non Mexican American children with a better understanding of the Mexican American culture; the bibliography also provides Mexican American children with books that deal with children of the same background.

"A Multicultural Bibliography" is available from School Library Service listing books about Black Americans, Native Americans, Pan Asian Americans and Puerto Rican Americans. Teachers in schools which contract for School Library Service from the San Diego County Office of Education should first check their branch library (if one is located at their school) for these books or if there is no branch library at the school the books may be requested from School Library Service.

Special thanks go to Joanne Odenthal, Latin American Studies Educational Resources, San Diego State University, for her assistance in the preparation of this bibliography. For more information contact Kay Niemeyer, coordinator, School Library Resources, Media Services Section, San Diego County Office of Education, 6401 Linda Vista Road, San Diego, CA 92111-7399, (619) 292-3733.

Gerald A. Rosander
Superintendent of Schools

MEXICAN AMERICAN BIBLIOGRAPHY

Beatty, Patricia. Lupita Manana. New York: Morrow, 1981 (I-JH)
To help her poverty-stricken family, thirteen-year old Lupita enters California as an illegal alien and starts to work while constantly on the watch for "la migra."

Beckett, Hilary. Rafael and the Raiders. New York: Dodd, 1972 (I)
Rafael, a thirteen-year-old Mexican boy, visits his American cousin in New York City and becomes involved in solving a robbery at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Bulla, Clyde Robert. Benito. New York: Crowell, 1961 (I)
An orphan comes from Mexico to California to live with an uncle and meets a great artist who changes his life.

Clark, Ann Nolan. Paco's Miracle. New York: Farrar, 1962 (I)
Describes life in a mountain village near Taos, New Mexico as well as customs and traditions of Mexican origin.

Cox, William. Trouble at Second Base. New York: Dodd, 1966 (I)
Story about the conflicts on a high school baseball team. There are problems of intolerance concerning a Mexican boy and his Japanese friend.

De Paola, Tomie. The Lady of Guadalupe. New York: Holiday, 1980 (P)
Recounts the appearance of the Lady of Guadalupe to a poor Indian farmer in Mexico in 1531.

Dobrin, Arnold. The New Life - La Vida Nueva; the Mexican-Americans Today. New York: Dodd, 1971 (I-JH)

A look at the Chicano Community--interviews with a social worker, a priest, an artist, and a teacher.

Dunnahoo, Terry. This Is Espie Sanchez. New York: Dutton, 1976 (JH)

A fifteen-year-old Explorer Scout's sense of danger is aroused by the boyfriend of a teenager she meets while helping at the police station screening calls.

_____. Who Cares About Espie Sanchez? New York: Dutton, 1975 (JH)

Unwanted by her mother, Espie is offered a new home, one in which both religion and police work play too big a part for her initial liking.

_____. Who Needs Espie Sanchez? New York: Dutton, 1977 (JH)

Espie Sanchez's curiosity is aroused by a young wealthy girl who befriends her after both are involved in a tragic traffic accident.

Ets, Marie. Bad Boy, Good Boy, New York: Crowell, 1967 (P)

When mother leaves home, problems arise for the family, but father lets Roberto attend the children's center where he learns to play with the other children and to speak English.

_____. Gilberto and the Wind. New York: Viking, 1963 (P)

Beautiful illustrations of a small boy with the universal quality of wonder, play, and imagination.

Felt, Sue. Rosa Too Little. New York: Doubleday, 1950 (P)

Rosa is too little to do the things Antonio and Margarita are able to do. Mother helps her learn to write her name before she begins school so she is able to take out library books.

Franchere, Ruth. Cesar Chavez. New York: Crowell, 1970 (P-I)

Coming from a Mexican American family of migrant workers, Cesar Chavez has experienced firsthand the miserable conditions under which the migrant worker lives and works.

Freeman, Dorothy. The Friday Surprise. Los Angeles: Elk Grove, 1968 (P)

Mario makes presents at school for all the members of his family and his father receives the best gift of all--Mario's ability to read to him.

Gates, Doris. Blue Willow. New York: Viking, 1968 (JH)

The development of friendship between a California family of Mexican descent and an Anglo migrant worker family.

Glubok, Shirley. The Art of Ancient Mexico. New York: Harper, 1968 (I)

The art of Aztec, Mixtec, Toltec, Olmec, and Zapotec civilizations that flourished before the Spanish conquest.

Gray, Genevieve. How Far, Felipe? New York: Harper and Row, 1978 (P)

One of the "I Can Read" History series, this story depicts the travels of Felipe and his family as they move from Mexico to California.

Green, Carla. Manuel, Young Mexican American. New York: Lantern, 1969 (I)

A youngster learns how people from various ethnic backgrounds can be American and still observe the customs and holidays of their homeland.

Gutman, Bill. Jim Plunkett. New York: Grosset, 1973 (I)

Biography of a star quarterback.

Hitte, Kathryn. Mexicali Soup. New York: Parents Magazine Press, 1970 (P)

Mama shows that good old Mexicali soup is not the same if you follow the sophisticated ways of the city.

Hood, Flora. One Luminaria for Antonio. New York: Putnam, 1966 (P-I)

Antonio prepares for Christmas as he makes a luminaria.

Jaynes, Ruth. Tell Me, Please! What's That? Glendale, CA: Bowmar, 1968 (P)

Story of two boys, one English-speaking and one Spanish-speaking, as they enjoy a trip to the children's zoo.

Jordan, Philip. Burro Benedicto and Other Folktales and Legends of Mexico. New York: Coward, 1960 (I)

A collection of eighteen short Mexican tales.

Krumgold, Joseph. And Now Miguel. New York: Crowell, 1953. (JH)

Miguel, who lives on a sheep farm near Taos, New Mexico, is twelve and eager to be considered grown up by his family.

Lampman, Evelyn. Bandit of Mok Hill. New York: Doubleday, 1969 (JH)

Historical novel set in San Francisco in which a young boy finally outlives his hero-worshipping of Joaquin Murietta.

Lexau, Joan. Maria. New York: Dial, 1964 (P)

Maria was greatly disappointed because she was not permitted to play with the valuable heirloom doll; however, her parents found a way to obtain a doll that Maria could hold and cuddle.

Martin, Patricia. Grandma's Gun. San Carlos, CA: Golden Gate, 1968 (I)

A young Mexican boy living in the pueblo of Los Angeles during the Mexican War helps to hide a cannon from the invading Americans. Based on an actual incident in the war.

Meltzer, Milton. The Hispanic Americans. New York: Crowell, 1982 (JH)

Discusses the social and economic problems faced by twelve million Hispanic Americans who live and work in the United States today.

Molnar, Joe. Graciela; a Mexican-American Child Tells Her Story. New York: Watts, 1972 (P)

The story of a Mexican American girl who lives with her family in Texas. Every summer her entire family makes the long trip to Michigan to work in the fields.

Newlon, Clarke. Famous Mexican-Americans. New York: Dodd, 1972 (JH)

Lee Trevino, Cesar Chavez, Anthony Quinn, Ricardo Montalban, Jim Plunkett, Trini Lopez, and Pancho Gonzales are a few of the Mexican Americans discussed in this book.

O'Dell, Scott. Child of Fire. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1974 (JH)

A juvenile parole officer narrates the story of a Mexican American youth--Manuel Castillo, leader of a gang in a Southern California barrio--and of Manuel's attempts to prove himself worthy of his Spanish heritage.

Ormsby, Virginia. What's Wrong with Julio? Lippincott, 1965 (P)

Julio refused to talk and share in the class activities. Gradually all the children began to be aware of Julio's loneliness.

Perl, Lila. Piñatas and Paper Flowers; Piñatas y Flores de Papel; Holidays of the Americas in English and Spanish. New York: Ticknor and Fields, 1983. (I)

Brief descriptions of several Hispanic holidays as they are celebrated in North, Central and South America.

Pinchot, Jane. The Mexicans in America. Minneapolis: Lerner, 1973 (I)

A brief history of the Mexicans in the United States: their life in the American Southwest before statehood, the United States' acquisition of their land, and the individual contributions of Mexicans to American life.

Politi, Leo. Juanita. New York: Scribner, 1948 (P-I)

Juanita who lives on Olvera Street in Los Angeles celebrates her fifth birthday. The attendant festivities and the Easter custom of blessing the animals are described in colorful detail.

_____. The Mission Bell. New York: Scribner, 1953 (P-I)

Inspiring picture story about Father Serra, founder of the California Missions and his Indian friends.

_____. Pedro, the Angel of Olvera Street. New York: Scribner, 1946 (P-I)
Story of Christmas time on Olvera Street in Los Angeles.

_____. Song of the Swallows. New York: Scribner, 1949 (P-I)
A little boy and the old gardener of the San Juan Capistrano Mission wait for the return of the swallows.

_____. Three Stalks of Corn. New York: Scribner, 1976 (P-I)
Angelica lives with her grandmother in Pico Rivera in the "Barrio de Pico Vieja."

Prago, Albert. Strangers in Their Own Land. New York: Four Winds, 1973 (JH)
Traces the turbulent history of Mexican Americans from the Spanish invasion of the New World to the present and describes the hardships, discrimination, and exploitations the Chicanos have endured.

Taylor, Theodore. The Maldonado Miracle. New York: Doubleday, 1973 (I)
When a twelve-year-old Mexican boy crosses the border as an illegal alien, he misses the planned linkup with his father in California. He works on a decaying mission where he accidentally creates a miracle which only he can explain.

Tebbel, John. South By Southwest; the Mexican-American and His Heritage. New York: Doubleday, 1969 (I)
A narrative history of the Southwest, covering the Mexican American in the United States, the Indians of Mexico, and the Spanish conquest.

Van Der Veer, Judy. Hold the Rein Free, San Francisco: Golden Gate, 1966 (JH)

Kiki, a Mexican-American boy, and his friend, Army, hide a horse so its unborn foal will not be destroyed by its owner.

Weiner, Sandra. Small Hands, Big Hands. New York: Pantheon, 1970 (I)

Seven profiles of Chicano migrant workers and other families. First person accounts of Mexican-American migrant workers from 11 to 67.